



# Newsletter

**Monday, July 29, 2013**

## **Give Us Your Input**

We are in the process of redesigning *ACL News & Info*. We welcome your input on the newsletter's format and content. Please send your suggestions to [aclinfo@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:aclinfo@acl.hhs.gov). Thank you.

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## **Blog on the Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act – July 26, 2013**

[Click here](#) to read the blog by Kathy Greenlee, Administrator, Administration for Community Living and Sharon Lewis, Commissioner, Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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## **News from HHS**

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### **On Eve of Medicare Anniversary, Over 6.6 Million Seniors Save Over \$7 Billion on Prescription Drugs**

*New information shows a thriving program*

On the eve of the 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of Medicare and Medicaid into law, new information released today by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shows a strong Medicare program. Over 6.6 million people with Medicare have saved over \$7 billion on prescription drugs as a result of the [Affordable Care Act](#). These savings average \$1,061 per beneficiary in drug

costs while a beneficiary is in “donut hole” coverage gap that the law closes over time. In addition, 16.5 million people with traditional Medicare took advantage of at least one free preventive service in the first six months of 2013.

This news comes on the heels of historically low levels of growth in Medicare spending. From 2010 to 2012, Medicare spending per beneficiary grew at 1.7 percent annually, more slowly than the average rate of growth in the Consumer Price Index, and substantially more slowly than the per capita rate of growth in the economy.

[Read more.](#)

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## **Funding Opportunity**

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### **Federal Emergency Management Agency Funding Opportunity**

The Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency recently released the Fiscal Year 2013 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for its Continuing Training Grant (CTG) program. The CTG will help strengthen national preparedness and provide specialized training to help first responders, homeland security/emergency management officials, and citizens to prepare them for all types of disasters.

CTG program grants will be awarded to state and local (including rural communities), tribal entities, nonprofit national associations and organizations; nonprofit higher education institutions; and non-profits. The application deadline is August 16, 2013. [Click here](#) to download the complete FOA.

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## **Stay Informed**

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### **Direct Service Workforce Resource Center's Summer Webinar Series**

***Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. ET:*** This webinar, sponsored by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, is the second session in the [Direct Service Workforce Resource Center's Summer Webinar Series](#). The webinar will focus on methods and approaches to understand and evaluate the strength and quality of each State's long-term services and supports workforce. It will focus on measuring and incentivizing workforce quality in fee-for-service, participant-directed and managed LTSS models.

[Click here](#) to register for the webinar. The call-in number is 866-233-3841; the passcode is 297171.

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### **Upcoming HHS Partnership Center Webinars**

To participate in one of the webinars listed below, please click on the title of the webinar and fill out the registration form. Please contact the HHS Partnership Center at [ACA101@hhs.gov](mailto:ACA101@hhs.gov) if you have problems registering, or if you have any questions about the health care law. All webinars are one hour.

**Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. ET:** [New Health Insurance Marketplace Resources, Tour of the Newly Re-Launched HealthCare.gov and Q and A on the ACA](#) will provide a brief tour of the Health Insurance Marketplace website and other key Health Insurance Marketplace websites. A question and answer session will follow.

**Wednesday, August 7, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. ET:** [The Health Care Law - Health Insurance Marketplace 101](#) will share information on the main provisions in the health care law (the Affordable Care Act) and how to access care in your community. Topics include the Health Insurance Marketplace, how to enroll in health insurance, and how to receive updates on the implementation of the law. A brief question and answer session will provide answers to commonly asked questions.

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### **NCIL to Hold Teleconference on NWD /ADRC Network Partnership**

**Tuesday, August 6, 2013 at 3:00- p.m. ET:** The National Council on Independent Living will hold a teleconference to explain how state and local staff can build on partnerships to take advantage of new funding opportunities, expand funding from existing sources, and share resources with partners. Presenters will review how the No Wrong Door (NWD) /Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Network serves as the foundation for recent efforts to streamline and enhance access to long-term services and supports for individuals with disabilities and older adults.

Communication Access Realtime Translation captioning will be available. [Click here](#) to reserve your spot on the teleconference.

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### **AHRQ Webinar on System-Wide Implementation of TeamSTEPPS®**

**Wednesday, August 14, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. ET:** HHS Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) will host this one-hour webinar on lessons learned from implementation of TeamSTEPPS® system wide. Presenters will be leaders from the New York-based North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System.

[Registration](#) is free.

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### **SBA & Small Business Majority Affordable Care Act Webinar Series**

The Small Business Administration (SBA) and Small Business Majority will continue their joint Affordable Care Act 101 webinar series in August. The series meets weekly on Thursdays. Small business owners can learn the basics of the Affordable Care Act and what it means for their companies and employees, including information on:

- Insurance reforms.
- Small business health care tax credit.
- New health insurance marketplaces.
- Employer shared responsibility provisions.

Below are the registration links for the next three presentations.

Thursday, August 1 at 2:00 p.m. ET: [Click to Register](#)

Thursday, August 8 at 2:00 p.m. ET: [Click to Register](#)

Thursday, August 15 at 2:00 p.m. ET: [Click to Register](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Van Es at [Christopher.vanes@sba.gov](mailto:Christopher.vanes@sba.gov). Please forward this announcement to any interested stakeholders.

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### **Tools & Information**

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#### **Sign Up for the New MLTSS Newsletter**

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging and its partners are offering a new weekly newsletter – *MLTSS Weekly Update*. This weekly newsletter, funded through a grant from the Administration for Community Living, is delivered every Thursday and provides updates on Medicaid and

Medicaid Managed Care state policy trends. These state-by-state updates are specifically selected for the aging and disability networks from Health Management Associates' *Weekly Roundup – Trends in State Health Policy*. To subscribe to the newsletter, please email Mary Kaschak at [mkaschak@n4a.org](mailto:mkaschak@n4a.org).

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### **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Seeks Comment on Draft Report**

The HHS Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has requested public comment on the draft report, [Long-Term Care for Older Adults: Future Research Needs](#).

The submission deadline is 11:59 p.m. ET on August 14, 2013. [Click here](#) for more information and to submit your comments.

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### **Call for Abstracts on Women's Health**

The [Women's Health 2014: The 22nd Annual Congress](#) invites researchers at all levels to submit abstracts on current and emerging issues in women's health and sex differences as well as abstracts on innovations in education and career development for health researchers.

The congress, sponsored by the HHS Office of Research on Women's Health, in partnership with the [Academy of Women's Health](#), *Journal of Women's Health*, and the Virginia Commonwealth University Institute for Women's Health, will be held in Washington, D.C., April 4–6, 2014.

The submission deadline is November 15, 2013. [Click here](#) for more information and to submit your abstract.

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### **New Resource for Parents of Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities**

A new toolkit, *Healthy Bodies: A Parent's Guide on Puberty for Adolescents with Disabilities*, addresses the needs of families with adolescent with developmental disabilities. The toolkit was developed at Vanderbilt University and it is being disseminated by the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.

[Healthy Bodies: A Parent's Guide on Puberty for Adolescents with Disabilities](#) may be downloaded free.

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## **August Observances**

### [Immunization Awareness Month](#)

1-8 [National Minority Donor Awareness Week](#)

11-17 [National Community Health Center Week](#)

14 [Anniversary of the Social Security Act](#)

26 [Women's Equality Day](#)

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